

April 1, 2014

Honorable Justice Douglas Wilkins
Essex Superior Court
Appleton Way
Lawrence, MA. 01840

Regarding: Leonard Degnan – Character Reference

Honorable Justice Douglas Wilkins:

I am writing you today on behalf of Lenny Degnan. I have known Lenny since the early 90's. We both served as members of the Lawrence City Council and have remained friends since then.

While working with Lenny on the council I found him to be nothing but honest, and always, always had the people of Lawrence in the forefront of any decisions that had to be made.

While serving as interim mayor for the City of Lawrence, here are just a few of his achievements:

- He improved the city of Lawrence bond rating.
- He was able to find the funding to purchase new police cruisers.
- He responded to the concerns of the Prospect Hill residents by having the abandoned gas station on Marston Street demolished which was a constant reminder and site of a 1988 horrific crime.
- He was able to acquire additional grants to help fund a variety of programs.

During the Mary Claire Kennedy administration Lenny assisted the administration in getting the city's finances in order. Prior to and during Mary Claire's administration the city had a State oversight board monitoring our finances. At the end of Mary Claire Kennedy's first term the oversight board was disbanded.

Eight years later, when Willy Lantigua was elected Mayor the mayor elect uncovered the fact that the City of Lawrence had a \$25 million dollar deficit. Since Lenny had a good working knowledge of city government and budgets he was asked to join the new administration. The budgets were submitted on time and balanced.

This is the Lenny that the media does not report about. He is a private person, a good family man, and a prosperous business man.

The above is just a small sample of the many unselfish contributions Lenny has made. Lenny has been and will continue be a friend to the residents of the City of Lawrence.

Best Regards,



Joseph R. Quartarone
Former Council President, City of Lawrence